WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound having the following structure:

$$R_1$$
 N
 N
 X
 Ar
 Het

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester, solvate, stereoisomer or prodrug thereof,

wherein:

"---" represents the second bond of an optional double bond;

R₁ is hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryl, -NH₂, or halogen;

 R_2 is alkyl, substituted alkyl, $-C(O)NR_7R_8$, aryl, substituted aryl, aryloxyalkyl, substituted aryloxyalkyl, heteroarylalkoxyalkyl, substituted heteroarylalkoxyalkyl, heteroaryl, or substituted heteroaryl, wherein said heteroaryl or substituted heteroaryl is connected to the pyrimidine ring via a carbon-carbon bond;

R₃ is null, hydrogen, or alkyl;

Y is $=(CR_4)$ - or -(C=O)-;

R₄ is hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, thioalkyl, alkylsulfinyl, or alkylsulfonyl;

Ar is phenyl, phenyl substituted with 1 or 2 R_5 , pyridyl or pyridyl substituted with 1 or 2 R_5 :

R₅ at each occurrence is hydroxy, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, cyano, halogen, alkylsulfonyl, or alkylsulfinyl;

Het is heteroaryl optionally substituted with 1 or 2 R₆;

R₆ at each occurrence is hydroxy, alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, cyano, or halogen; and

R₇ and R₈ are independently hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heterocycle, substituted heterocycle, arylalkyl, substituted arylalkyl, heterocyclealkyl or substituted heterocyclealkyl; or

 $$\rm R_{7}$$ and $\rm R_{8}$ taken together with the nitrogen to which they are attached form a heterocyclic ring or a substituted heterocyclic ring.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R_1 is hydrogen, alkyl, substituted alkyl, -NH₂, or halogen.

- 3. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R_2 is alkyl, substituted alkyl, aryl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, or substituted heteroaryl, wherein said heteroaryl or substituted heteroaryl is connected to the pyrimidine ring via a carbon-carbon bond.
 - 4. A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₃ is null.
 - 5. A compound according to claim 4 wherein Y is $=(CR_4)$ -.
- 6. A compound according to claim 5 wherein R_4 is hydrogen, alkyl, or substituted alkyl.
- A compound according to claim 1 wherein R₃ is hydrogen or alkyl.
 - 8 A compound according to claim 7 wherein Y is –(C=O)-.
- 9. A compound according to claim 1 wherein Ar is phenyl substituted with 1 R_5 .
- 10. A compound according to claim 9 wherein R_5 is alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, cyano, halogen, alkylsulfonyl, or alkylsulfinyl.
- 11. A compound according to claim 1 wherein Het is substituted with 1 $R_{\rm f}$.
- 12. A compound according to claim 11 wherein R_6 is alkyl, substituted alkyl, alkoxy, substituted alkoxy, cyano, or halogen.
 - 13. A compound according to claim 1,

wherein:

R₁ is hydrogen, alkyl or substituted alkyl;

R₃ is null;

Y is $=(CR_4)$ -;

R₄ is hydrogen, alkyl or substituted alkyl;

Ar is phenyl substituted with one R₅;

R₅ is alkyl, aubstituted alkyl, alkoxy or substituted alkoxy; and Het is heteroaryl.

14. A compound according to claim 13,

wherein:

R₁ is lower alkyl;

R₄ is lower alkyl;

R₅ is alkoxy; and

Het is pyrazolyl.

15. A compound according to claim 14,

wherein:

R₁ is methyl;

R₄ is methyl; and

R₅ is methoxy.

16. A compound according to claim15,

wherein:

 R_2 is alkyl, substituted arylalkyl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl, substituted heteroaryloxyalkyl, heteroarylalkyl or substituted heteroarylalkyl.

17. A compound according to claim 16,

wherein:

 R_2 is substituted arylalkyl, substituted aryl, heteroaryl or substituted heteroaryl.

18. A compound according to claim 17,

wherein:

 R_2 is substituted benzyl, substituted phenyl, substituted pyrazolyl, pyridinyl or substituted pyridinyl.

19. A compound according to claim 18,

wherein:

R₂ is substituted pyrazolyl, pyridinyl or substituted pyridinyl.

20. A compound according to claim 19,

wherein:

R₂ is substituted pyridinyl.

21. A compound according to claim 20,

wherein:

R₂ is methyl substituted pyridinyl or methoxy substituted pyridinyl.

22. A compound according to claim 21, wherein said compound is represented by the formula:

23. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

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24. A method for treating a disorder manifesting hypersecretion of CRF in a mammal comprising administering to the animal an effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 23.

- 25. A method according to claim 24, wherein the disorder is stroke.
- 26. A method according to claim 24, wherein the disorder is depression.
- 27. A method according to claim 24, wherein the disorder is an anxiety-related disorder.
- 28. A method according to claim 24, wherein the disorder is obsessive-compulsive disorder.
- 29. A method according to claim 24, wherein the disorder is irritable bowel syndrome.
- 30. A method according to claim 24, wherein the disorder is anorexia nervosa.